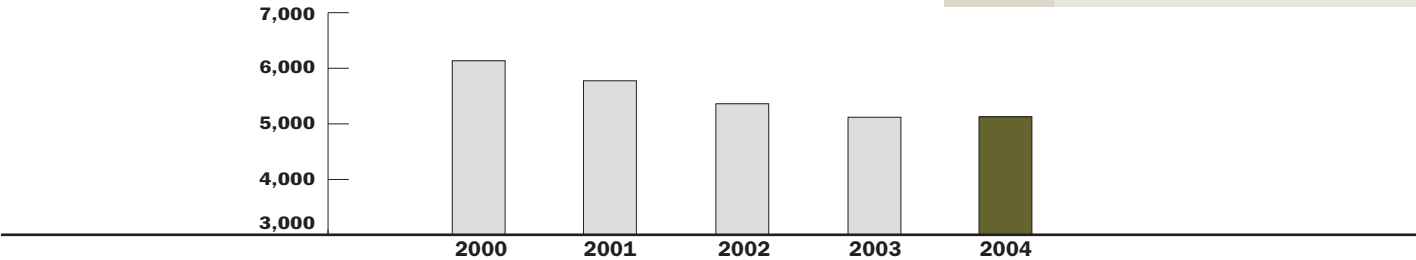


Number of Collisions Involving Bicyclists or Pedestrians Holds Steady in 2004, Ending Multi-Year Downward Trend

- The number of injury and fatal motor vehicle collisions involving bicyclists or pedestrians held steady in 2004, with the data showing 5,125 such collisions compared to 5,112 in 2003. This represents a leveling off in a steady downward trend that has been in place since 1999. Indeed, since 2000, double-digit decreases have been recorded in nearly all categories of pedestrian- and bicyclist-involved collisions (see table below).
- An increase of 109 collisions resulting in injury or fatality to cyclists offset a decrease of 96 collisions resulting in injury or fatality to pedestrians. Fatal collisions are five times more likely to involve pedestrians than cyclists, reflecting the fact that walking is a more common form of transportation than bicycling.
- The 5,125 injury and fatal collisions involving pedestrians or cyclists represent 15 percent of the 33,950 injury and fatal motor vehicle collisions that occurred in 2004 (see previous section). However, the 120 fatal collisions involving pedestrians and cyclists represent a disproportionate 28 percent of all fatal motor vehicle collisions.
- These data include only motor vehicle collisions reported to law-enforcement authorities. There may be a significant number of injury collisions involving pedestrians and cyclists that are not reported.

Injury and Fatal Motor Vehicle Collisions Involving Pedestrians or Bicyclists, 2000–2004

	Collisions					Percent Change	
	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2003–2004	2000–2004
Collisions Involving Pedestrians							
Injury Collisions	3,173	3,080	2,910	2,740	2,648	–3%	–17%
Fatal Collisions	134	103	111	104	100	–4%	–25%
Subtotal	3,307	3,183	3,021	2,844	2,748	–3%	–17%
Collisions Involving Bicyclists							
Injury Collisions	2,810	2,566	2,321	2,254	2,357	+5%	–16%
Fatal Collisions	17	20	19	14	20	+43%	+18%
Subtotal	2,827	2,586	2,340	2,268	2,377	+5%	–16%
Total Involving Bicyclists or Pedestrians	6,134	5,769	5,361	5,112	5,125	<1%	–16%



Source: California Highway Patrol

A Closer Look – In the absence of better data about how much people are walking and bicycling in the Bay Area, we can look for patterns based on population by jurisdiction. As with data on all collisions, there appears to be a strong correlation between population rank and rank in pedestrian- and bicycle-involved motor vehicle collisions. (For this reason, there is a great deal of consistency from year to year in the jurisdictions with the highest number of pedestrian- and bicycle-involved collisions, with the largest cities — San Francisco, Oakland and San Jose — consistently reporting the highest number of collisions.) Some notable exceptions may be explained by factors such as travel patterns, demographics and daytime population (workers or students).

Berkeley, which is the 16th-largest Bay Area city in terms of population, ranks 4th in the number of pedestrian-involved collisions and 3rd in bicycle-involved collisions. This likely reflects the high level of walking and cycling in this university-centered community. Berkeley also has a higher daytime population due to the university, which attracts large numbers of students and workers. (Similar factors are at work in Palo Alto.)

The city of Vallejo ranks 12th in terms of population and 6th for collisions involving pedestrians. Compared to other Bay Area communities, Vallejo has a greater percentage of youths under 18 and a greater share of persons living in poverty. Both factors tend to correlate with a higher level of pedestrian activity.

Injury and Fatal Motor Vehicle Collisions Involving Pedestrians And Bicyclists by Bay Area Jurisdiction, 2004

PEDESTRIANS

2004 Rank	Jurisdiction	Total 2004	Annual Average 1999–2003	Rank in Population
1	San Francisco	730	901	2
2	San Jose	330	347	1
3	Oakland	290	298	3
4	Berkeley	105	113	16
5	Hayward	64	76	8
6	Vallejo	62	51	12
7	Santa Rosa	49	56	6
8	San Mateo	43	46	21
9	Fremont	41	63	4
10	Santa Clara	40	28	13

BICYCLISTS

2004 Rank	Jurisdiction	Total 2004	Annual Average 1999–2003	Rank in Population
1	San Francisco	323	357	2
2	San Jose	321	300	1
3	Berkeley	132	136	16
4	Oakland	118	166	3
5	Santa Rosa	63	74	6
6	Palo Alto	56	74	35
7	Concord	52	46	11
8	Sunnyvale	51	47	10
9	Fremont	48	61	4
10	Napa	47	37	24

Sources: California Highway Patrol, California Department of Finance